

**MINUTES OF
FAUQUIER COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
March 26, 2014**

7:00 P.M.

*2nd Floor Conference Room – Warren Green Building
10 Hotel Street
Warrenton, VA 20186*

Members Present: Peter S. Eltringham, Chairman, R. Holder Trumbo, Adrienne Garreau, John Green, Matthew Sheedy, Tony Tedeschi and Mark Nesbit

Members Absent: Ed Moore, Vice-Chairman and Jeffrey Walker

Guests Present: Greg Banks, Virginia Department of Transportation; Ben Davidson, Virginia Department of Transportation; and Roy Tate, Virginia Department of Transportation

Staff Present: Kimberley Fogle, Chris Pettit, Marie Scheetz, Meredith Meixner and Maureen Williamson

Mr. Eltringham explained to those in attendance that the Transportation Committee is an advisory body that makes recommendations to the Board of Supervisors (BOS). He noted that the public was invited to this meeting to share their concerns and facts related to their unpaved roads as the Committee considers its recommendation.

1. Approval of February 26, 2014 Committee Meeting Minutes

ACTION: On motion made by Adrienne Garreau and seconded by Matthew Sheedy, it was moved to approve the February 26, 2014 Committee meeting minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Opal Interchange (Ongoing)

Mr. Nesbit reported that VDOT has started to install road signage for the southbound approach to the interchange to improve the operations at the existing intersection. Mr. Nesbit indicated that the pavement marking work has not been done due to inclement weather.

At the end of February 2014, VDOT did traffic counts on the off ramp to the flyover and also the left turn lane (the southbound left turn lane from Route 29 onto Route 17) and is going to wait a period of time and then recount to see what impact the sign and marking changes have made. VDOT estimates the repeat traffic counts will be performed in May or June 2014.

Mr. Nesbit mentioned VDOT's receipt of the resolution to name the Opal flyover bridge the "William Sidney Shacklette" Bypass. Mr. Trumbo noted that the dedication is hopeful for Memorial Day weekend. Mr. Eltringham asked that Staff follow up with VDOT and inform the Committee of the dedication date.

ACTION: Staff is to monitor the date of the dedication naming the Opal flyover bridge and inform the Transportation Committee when details are received.

3. *Secondary Six-Year Plan*

- ***Paving Unpaved Roads - Outreach***

Due to the many citizens who came to discuss the paving of their roads, Mr. Eltringham made a decision to move to agenda item #5. Mr. Eltringham explained to the citizens that the Committee is in the process of prioritizing projects to be included in the Secondary Six-Year Plan. He indicated that they will be considering the results from the public outreach for unpaved roads and residents' concerns in order to provide a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors (BOS).

Mr. Banks provided a revised version of the "Fauquier County Projected Allocations 2014 Six-Year Plan" chart noting that it is now updated to reflect the correct draft allocations of the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) Formula Unpaved State category. He noted that the CTB Formula funds must be used on unpaved roads.

Mr. Pettit presented VDOT's updated traffic counts to the list of unpaved roads the Committee is considering for inclusion in the Secondary Six-Year Plan.

Ms. Garreau asked about the nature of the public outreach. Mr. Pettit replied that a letter was mailed to all of the landowners that inquired how residents felt about having their road paved, requested feedback of their concerns, and described the Rural Rustic and Pave in Place Programs. Mr. Pettit explained that the letter provided a link to an online survey created for citizens to provide comments, as well as his contact information should citizens want to contact him personally.

Mr. Pettit provided a presentation reflecting the Internet survey responses along with details from email and phone calls received in the past couple of weeks.

Tapps Ford Road (Route 645)

Mr. Pettit provided a summary of the responses received regarding Tapps Ford Road and noted that out of sixty total properties, 38% of residents responded to the questionnaire with 50% in favor, 44% against and 6% needing more information. He stated that the concerns included:

- Shortcut to I-66
- Increased traffic

- Increased speed
- More motorcycles/bicycles
- Decreased safety
- Petition against paving signed 12 years ago
- Increase in real estate taxes

Citizens present expressed additional concerns regarding drainage, road widening and obtaining easements. Citizens in support of paving commented that the deterioration of the road would be alleviated, less wear-and-tear on vehicles, and vehicle cleanliness.

Ms. Fogle explained that it is difficult for VDOT to maintain these roads in an adequate state, therefore VDOT is looking to pave these roads so they can be maintenance free for a longer period of time.

Ms. Garreau noted that Tapps Ford Road is the longest stretch of road on the list and is the most expensive project of the six being considered. Mr. Banks responded that at the current project estimate of \$2.1 million, it would take three to four years to accrue the funds to complete and other smaller projects would have to wait.

Mr. Banks stated that the intent of the Rural Rustic Program is to surface treat the road as closely as possible to keep it the width it is today assuming the width is reasonable to accommodate the traffic on the roadway.

Mr. Tate remarked that the posted speed limit on rural rustic roads is 35 miles per hour. He said that once a road is paved, VDOT will do a complete traffic engineering check for signage and speed.

Swains Road (Route 739)

Mr. Pettit provided a summary of the responses received regarding Swains Road and noted that out of twenty-three total properties, 39% of residents responded to the questionnaire with 60% in favor, 20% against and 20% needing more information. He stated that the main concern was for the poor condition of the road currently.

Citizens present expressed additional concerns for widening of the road, including safety issues in the narrow areas of the road, tree removal, speeding and pedestrian safety for both walkers and horseback riders. Citizens in support of paving commented that this would fix the current condition of the road and improve maintenance issues.

Mr. Nesbit stated that when it was last reviewed, Swains Road did not qualify for the Rural Rustic Program because of the narrow width of the road. He explained the project would require widening of the current road to an eighteen foot surface with two foot shoulders.

Lunsford Road (Route 674)

Mr. Pettit stated that of the five total properties, 0% of residents responded to the questionnaire.

No citizens were in attendance to speak regarding Lunsford Road; however, Ms. Garreau noted that a local cyclist had requested this small segment be paved to improve safety on this frequently used route.

Green Meadows Road (Route 801)

Mr. Pettit provided a summary of the responses received regarding Green Meadows Road and noted that out of thirteen total properties, 54% of residents responded to the questionnaire with 100% in favor. He stated that the concerns included:

- Drainage
- Current Road Condition

Mr. Banks stated that it qualifies for the Rural Rustic Program due to the adequate width of the road and noted that VDOT does not see a need for obtaining additional easements on this road.

Several citizens stated that they were in agreement with paving the road due to drainage problems and severe potholes.

Moss Hollow Road (Route 728)

Mr. Pettit provided a summary of the responses received regarding Moss Hollow Road and noted that out of thirty total properties, 47% of residents responded to the questionnaire with 50% in favor, 43% against and 7% needing more information. He stated that the concerns included:

- Current Road Condition
- Tree Removal
- Slope Removal
- Change of “Character” of the road
- Increase Speed on paved road
- Potential Shortcut
- Prior promise to keep on bottom of list
- Pedestrian Safety (Walkers and Horse and Rider Safety)

Citizens present expressed additional concerns for pedestrian safety for both walkers and horseback riders, two children’s camps with increased traffic in summer, and obtaining easements.

Mr. Banks explained that Moss Hollow Road does not qualify for the Rural Rustic Program due to the narrow width of the road, which will require widening.

Wheatley School Road (Route 742)

Mr. Pettit provided a summary of the responses received regarding Wheatley School Road and noted that out of thirty total properties, 67% of residents responded to the questionnaire with 50% in favor, 40% against and 10% needing more information. He stated that the concerns included:

- Current Road Condition
- Drainage
- Current Safety
- Changes to current character of the road
- Mature Tree Removal

On behalf of all the roads being considered, a citizen commented that paved roads get cleared of snow more quickly than unpaved roads.

Mr. Banks noted this road was not on the Six-Year Plan last year for review, but would likely be a candidate for the Rural Rustic Program.

The Committee agreed that staff will work with VDOT to create additional outreach in order to provide further information to residents along unpaved roads which do not meet the criteria for the Rural Rustic Program and might require widening. This would allow citizens that were not provided these details when previously surveyed to make an informed decision on whether they support paving their road.

After discussion, Mr. Eltringham suggested that the Committee send forward Lunsford Road, Green Meadows Road, and Wheatley School Road as recommendations to the BOS for public hearing and inclusion in the paving of unpaved roads while leaving others on the list without further prioritization.

ACTION: On motion made by Matthew Sheedy and seconded by Adrienne Garreau, it was moved to add Lunsford Road (Route 674), Green Meadows Road (Route 801), and Wheatley School Road (Route 742) to the Secondary Six-Year Plan as resurfacing projects, leaving the remaining roads on the potential unpaved road list. The motion carried 4-1 with Mr. Trumbo abstaining.

Mr. Tedeschi expressed his opposition and stated he would prefer to send forth only Lunsford Road and Green Meadows Road.

- ***Resolution to send to the BOS***

After discussion, the Committee agreed to amend the Secondary Six-Year Plan as listed below:

Priority	Magisterial District	Route	Route Name	Description of Work
0	Lee	655	Tinpot Run Road/Lucky Hill Road	Bridge replacement and approaches over Tinpot Run & improve curve at intersection Route 1201 and Route 655
1	Lee	651	Sumerduck Road	Bridge and approaches over Sumerduck Road
2	Marshall	688	Leeds Manor Road	Two bridge replacements and approaches over Thumb Run and tributary
3	Lee	661	Schoolhouse Road	Reconstruct to correct safety hazards
4	Marshall/Scott	622	Whiting Road	Upgrade Railroad Crossing
5	Scott/Cedar Run	602	Rogues Road	Safety and operational improvements from Route 605 to the Prince William County line
6	Marshall	723	Ashville Road	Bridge replacement and approaches over branch of Goose Creek
7	Cedar Run	674	Lunsford Road	Reconstruct and surface treat from 0.21 miles north of Route 643 to 0.46 miles north of Route 643
8	Cedar Run	801	Green Meadows Road	Reconstruct and surface treat from Route 616 to end of state maintenance
9	Marshall	742	Wheatley School Road	Reconstruct and surface treat from Route 688 to end of state maintenance
10	Cedar Run	604	Burwell Road	Reconstruct and surface treat from the existing end of pavement to the Prince William County line
11	Marshall	645	Tapps Ford Road	Reconstruct and surface treat from Route 647 to county line as a Rural Rustic Road
12	Marshall	739	Swains Road	Reconstruct and surface treat from Route 741 to end of state maintenance
13	Marshall	728	Moss Hollow Road	Reconstruct and surface treat from Route 688 to end of state maintenance

ACTION: On motion made by Adrienne Garreau and seconded by John Green, it was moved to recommend adoption of the Secondary Six Year Plan as amended. The motion carried unanimously with Mr. Trumbo abstaining.

4. Old Business

- ***Atoka Road – Earsaline Anderson Request***

Mr. Trumbo shared correspondence from Pastor Craddock who commented that he himself has experienced what has been enunciated to this Committee on the behalf of others in regard to speed and safety issues, and was nearly hit by a vehicle when pulling out of the church parking lot.

Mr. Nesbit reported that VDOT recommends maintaining the 35 miles per hour speed limit based on the typical section of the roadway and accident history. He indicated that this area is experiencing a speeding and enforcement issue. Mr. Nesbit further reported that two directional arrow signs have been installed at the end and stated that he believes flashing speed detection signs will meet VDOT's criteria. Mr. Nesbit agreed to request the signs and report back to the Committee at the next meeting.

ACTION: VDOT will request the installation of flashing speed detection signs on Atoka Road and report back to the Committee at the April 30, 2014 meeting.

- ***O'Keefe Road – John Green Request***

Discussion on O'Keefe Road was tabled until next month's meeting. Mr. Green distributed a write-up of his traffic data, which will be discussed at the next meeting on April 30, 2014.

ACTION: This item was tabled until the April 30, 2014 meeting.

- ***Route 17 (Marshall to Warrenton) Traffic Calming – Scott Filling Request***

Mr. Pettit reviewed a draft letter advising the Board of Supervisors of the wide range of citizen support regarding the need for traffic calming along Route 17 between Marshall and Warrenton. He noted this letter written by the Transportation Committee shows its support for the BOS sending a formal letter to VDOT requesting the placement of permanent speed display signs. After discussion, the signature page was signed by Committee members.

Mr. Pettit noted that he started the process of scheduling the meeting to discuss Mr. Filling's request for traffic calming measures and it is tentatively planned for April 29, 2014 at 4:00 p.m.

In the absence of Mr. Filling, Mr. Pettit asked Mr. Trumbo if Mr. Filling's request for data had been received. Mr. Trumbo confirmed and noted that the requests for data include

traffic counts, and speed data broken out by vehicle type, and figures for citations given on for Route 17. Mr. Trumbo asked staff to facilitate Mr. Filling's requests by contacting the appropriate agencies for the data.

ACTION: Staff will coordinate Scott Filling's requests for data with VDOT and the Sheriff's Office and report back to the Committee at the April 30, 2014 meeting.

5. *March 2014 – VDOT – Fauquier Monthly Report*

Mr. Nesbit provided an overview of VDOT's monthly report and pointed out to the Committee that the report, while presented in March, is February's data.

Mr. Nesbit reported that the Route 28 Improvements Project now has a consultant.

Ms. Fogle asked about the status of moving the ad date up for the Route 661 curve improvement so that it can coincide with the Safe Routes to School Project. Mr. Banks replied that the VDOT design team is currently looking at moving it forward to 2015 from 2017 and agreed to provide an update at the next meeting.

Mr. Nesbit distributed a list of County roads that are scheduled for paving and surface treatments during the spring and summer of 2014.

Ms. Fogle stated that in February's report there were two projects VDOT had under review that do not show up on March's report - Route 732 (John Barton Payne Road) at Route 688 (Leeds Manor Road); and Route 793 (Shepherdstown Road) at Route 600 (Broad Run Church Road). Mr. Nesbit clarified that the Route 732/688 request was made in error on the part of VDOT and the Route 793/600 safety study is now complete. He indicated there was a request to review for an all-way stop and VDOT concluded that this location did not meet the qualifications for a four-way stop. However, the size of the stop sign was increased and distracting vegetation trimmed.

Mr. Trumbo noted he received a request from a citizen regarding speeding on Hopewell Road and inquired about the status of a truck ban on Hopewell Road that was made in conjunction with Prince William County. Mr. Tate said that he would research the speed limit and advise Mr. Trumbo once the truck ban details were located.

6. *Citizens' Time*

There were no comments or questions from citizens.

7. *Member Comments*

Mr. Tony Tedeschi announced that the Town of Warrenton's Transportation meeting will be held Friday, March 28, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

Ms. Fogle introduced new Transportation Planner, Marie Scheetz, who will start on Tuesday, April 2, 2014. Maureen Williamson was introduced, as administrative staff, who will now be responsible for preparing the Committee's meeting minutes.

Ms. Fogle gave a brief update of a meeting she had with the National Capital Transportation Board in regards to the designation of New Baltimore and Warrenton as part of the metropolitan planning organization out of Northern Virginia. Ms. Fogle explained that the County will continue to work with the VDOT Culpeper District on establishing its Six-Year Plan; however, VDOT will then provide it to the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board for inclusion into their constrained Long-Range Plan. She further explained that this would be necessary in order for us to obtain federal funding. Ms. Fogle reiterated that this will apply only to projects located in the New Baltimore and Warrenton District areas – the recently designated urban cluster area.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, April 30, 2014.**